

1. (Amended) A method in a server-client environment, the method comprising:

receiving at the server a driver identifier for a printer that can print information at the client;

using the driver identifier to select a closest matching driver of a plurality of drivers to install at the server;

installing, at the server, the selected driver; and

allowing applications executing on the server to print to the printer using the installed driver.

15. (Amended) A method implemented in a server in a server-client environment, the method comprising:

automatically selecting at least one of a plurality of drivers corresponding to a peripheral device attached to the client; and

installing, at the server, the selected at least one driver wherein the server can interface with the peripheral device using the driver.

25. (Amended) The method of claim 15, wherein at least one computer-readable memory contains a computer program that is executable by a processor to perform the method.

26. (Amended) One or more computer-readable media having stored thereon a computer program that, when executed by one or more processors of a server in a client-server system, causes the one or more processors to:

receive a printer driver identifier for a printer attached to a client;

1 use the printer driver identifier to select one of a plurality of printer drivers
2 to install at the server according to the following,

3 if a particular printer driver of the plurality of printer drivers has a
4 corresponding printer driver identifier that is the same as the received
5 printer driver identifier, then selecting that particular driver,

6 if a particular printer driver of the plurality of printer drivers
7 currently has a corresponding printer driver identifier that is different than
8 the received printer driver identifier but that corresponds to the same printer
9 driver as the received printer driver identifier, then selecting that particular
10 printer driver, and

11 if a particular printer driver of the plurality of printer drivers has a
12 corresponding driver name that is the same as a driver name received as part
13 of the printer driver identifier, then selecting that particular printer driver
14 without regard for whether that particular printer driver has a corresponding
15 driver version that is the same as a driver version received as part of the
16 printer driver identifier; and

17 install the selected printer driver at the server.

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19 **29. (Amended)** An apparatus including a server and a client, the
20 apparatus comprising:

21 a driver library including a plurality of printer drivers; and

22 a driver matching module to select at least one of the plurality of printer
23 drivers for installation at the server, the selected at least one printer driver
24 corresponding to a printer attached to the client.
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1 **30.** (Amended) An apparatus as recited in claim 29, wherein the driver
2 matching module further:

3 checks whether any of the plurality of drivers has a corresponding driver
4 identifier that is the same as a received driver identifier; and

5 wherein if a particular driver of the plurality of drivers has a corresponding
6 driver identifier that is the same as the received driver identifier, then install that
7 driver at the server.

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9 **31.** (Amended) An apparatus as recited in claim 29, further comprising:
10 a mapping table to map previous driver identifiers to subsequent driver
11 identifiers;

12 wherein the driver matching module further checks the mapping table to
13 determine whether any of the plurality of drivers currently has a corresponding
14 driver identifier that is different than a received driver identifier but that is a
15 subsequent driver identifier mapped to the received driver identifier as a previous
16 driver identifier; and

17 if a particular driver of the plurality of drivers currently has a corresponding
18 driver identifier that is different than a received driver identifier but that is a
19 subsequent driver identifier mapped to the received driver identifier as a previous
20 driver identifier, then the driver matching module further installs that driver at the
21 server.

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23 **32.** (Amended) An apparatus as recited in claim 29, wherein the driver
24 matching module further:
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1 checks whether any of the plurality of printer drivers has a corresponding
2 driver name that is the same as a received driver name; and

3 wherein if a particular printer driver of the plurality of printer drivers has a
4 corresponding driver name that is the same as the received driver name, then
5 install that printer driver at the server without regard for whether that particular
6 printer driver has a corresponding driver version that is the same as a received
7 driver version.

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9 **33. (Amended) A system comprising:**

10 a client computer having a local printer attached thereto; and

11 a server computer coupled to the client computer via a network, wherein the
12 server computer includes,

13 a driver library including a plurality of printer drivers, and

14 a driver matching module to select at least one of the plurality of
15 printer drivers for installation on the server computer to allow applications
16 executing on the server computer to print to the local printer, the driver
17 matching module selecting one of the plurality of printer drivers for
18 installation based on a printer driver identifier and according to the
19 following,

20 if a particular printer driver of the plurality of printer drivers
21 has a corresponding printer driver identifier that is the same as the
22 received printer driver identifier, then selecting that particular driver
23 for installation,

24 if a particular printer driver of the plurality of printer drivers
25 currently has a corresponding printer driver identifier that is different

1 than the received printer driver identifier but that corresponds to the
2 same printer driver as the received printer driver identifier, then
3 selecting that particular printer driver for installation, and

4 if a particular printer driver of the plurality of printer drivers
5 has a corresponding driver name that is the same as a driver name
6 received as part of the printer driver identifier, then selecting that
7 particular printer driver without regard for whether that particular
8 printer driver has a corresponding driver version that is the same as a
9 driver version received as part of the printer driver identifier for
10 installation on the server computer.

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12 **34.** (Amended) A system as recited in claim 33, wherein the client
13 computer transmits the printer driver identifier to the server computer.
